# ROLE OF UNIVERSITY GRANTS COMMISSION IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF COLLEGE LIBRARIES IN THE MANGALORE AND MYSORE REGIONS: A STUDY

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| Contents | | Page No. |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | Introduction | 1 |
| 1.1 | Academic Libraries | 1 |
| 1.2 | University Grants Commission and Higher Education | 3 |
| 1.3 | College Library Financing | 4 |
| 2 | Review of Literature | 4 |
| 2.1 | College Libraries | 5 |
| 2.2 | College Library Resources and Services | 6 |
| 2.3 | University Grants Commission Support to Colleges Libraries | 7 |
| 3 | Need and Significance of the Study | 8 |
| 4 | Statement of the Problem | 9 |
| 5 | Definition of Key Terms | 9 |
| 6 | Objectives of the Study | 10 |
| 7 | Hypotheses | 11 |
| 8 | Scope and Limitations of the Study | 11 |
| 9 | Research Methodology | 12 |
| 9.1 | Population of the Study | 12 |
| 9.2 | Questionnaire | 13 |
| 10 | Analysis of Data | 13 |
| 11 | Major Findings and Observations | 14 |
| 12 | Organisation of the Thesis | 15 |
| 13 | Conclusion | 16 |
| | References | 17 |
| | Publications | 24 |

# 1. Introduction

Education is the process of imparting knowledge, skills and habits from one generation to the next through various means such as teaching, training, research and academic programmes (Navaneedhan, 2017). It involves the transfer of information and the development of essential abilities that enable individuals to thrive in society. Education plays a crucial role in shaping the individuals' intellectual, social and emotional growth and it is fundamental for personal and societal advancement. By engaging in educational activities, individuals gain the necessary knowledge and skills to reach their full potential and contribute to the progress of their communities. Through education, new generations are equipped with the tools and insights needed to navigate the complexities in the world and make informed decisions. Overall, education is a vital process that ensures the continuity of knowledge and empowers individuals to succeed in various aspects of life.

College libraries must adapt to the evolving information needs of end-users and become a local gateway to global knowledge. The future of college libraries is uncertain but promising, with a balance between printed publications and digital documents. A hybrid library, user-centred and expert-assisted, is essential. The University Grants Commission (UGC) is responsible for financial requirements, grant allocation and improvement recommendations. Academic libraries serve as knowledge hubs for scholars, scientists, technocrats, researchers and students in higher education. India's higher education system, controlled by the UGC, offers education in various fields. India's education system is a heritage acquired one since the British occupation, maintaining quality education in line with international standards (Velmurugan, 2012).

## 1.1. Academic Libraries

Education has been a major concern of the government, which has since independence appointed several commissions and committees to make recommendations for the recognition of the Indian education system. The academic libraries in India and other developing countries are at least a decade behind their counterparts in the developed countries. A good college library not only serves the academic needs of the student, but also copes with the educational and research needs. The quality of the teaching-learning process depends upon the resources and services

of the library. The college libraries, thus serve the academic purpose, in addition to it, they coordinate several functions related to teaching. A library, which forms an important part of a college, is designed and organised to meet the demands of its students and faculty.

Libraries are the repositories of knowledge and form an integral part of education. Libraries have a long history, starting with the chained and closed-access libraries of earlier times to the present-day hybrid, digital and virtual libraries that use the latest technology for provision of information through various services (Mahajan, 2005). Librarians have evolved from storekeepers to information officers, navigators and cybrarians, focusing on providing clients with anytime and anywhere information, transforming from protecting books against theft to navigating the vast reading material.

The rise of computers has significantly transformed the nature of libraries, transforming them from mere access points to digital institutions. Libraries now house advanced media, including non-book materials and the internet, providing remote access to a wide-range of resources. Libraries are now surrounded by networked data connected to internet-based services and the electronic resources relevant to professions are rapidly developing. Libraries have experienced significant growth due to various factors, including an increased local and popular interest and the recognition of their importance in the educational, cultural and social life of a modern democratic society. The modern library is characterized by its size, with book stock now counted in millions.

The Indian higher education system, one of the oldest and largest in the world, has private universities and colleges that play a crucial role in literacy development through library collections. However, challenges remain in terms of equity, efficiency, inclusiveness, global competitiveness, innovation and quality (Kumar, 2022). The focus has shifted to creating intelligent, resource-rich libraries for advanced research and learning. Many college libraries have integrated digital libraries that provide access to e-books, e-journals and online databases. Library automation was implemented to streamline operations and improve user experience. In addition, priority training and development programmes are conducted for the library staff to equip them with modern library management skills. These developments aim to

improve the infrastructure and capacity of India's college libraries for academic and research activities in the 21st century.

### 1.2. University Grants Commission and Higher Education

The UGC of India is an apex body set up by the union government in 1956 and is charged with the coordination, determination and maintenance of the standards of university education. It provides recognition to universities in India and disburses funds to such recognised universities and colleges. UGC is the most important individual statutory, advisory and executive body expressly established to help the government in discharging its constitutional duties. It has donned the role of an important stakeholder in the improvement of university and college libraries.

Colleges play a vital role in the university education system. During the sixth plan period, the UGC formulated a policy for the development of undergraduate and postgraduate education in the colleges, with a view to improve the standard and quality of higher education. Moreover, it is the heart of the academic institution with its arteries flowing into its departments and individuals.

India has made significant progress in higher education since 2000, but its research productivity is not at the speed required to place its higher education institutions among the world's top institutions. China, which was behind India in 1996, is now ahead of India in most fields. However, India needs to make a significant push to improve its ranking, as other countries like Russia, Japan and China are investing more resources. India must also reform higher education in areas covered by laws other than the UGC Act (Panagariya, 2020).

Furthermore, the UGC has played a role in promoting library automation and the use of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) in college libraries. Studies have examined the use of ICT in college libraries in Karnataka, India and have highlighted the need for increased application of ICT in college libraries (Kumar & Biradar, 2010). The UGC, along with the INFLIBNET Centre, has been involved in accelerating the automation activities of university libraries, which has had a positive impact on the development of library management software and services (Chandrashekara et al., 2012).

### 1.3. College Library Financing

The financial crisis has hindered the development of modern library services, as libraries struggle to provide adequate funding (Das & Paul, 2012). Promoting good library services in colleges depends upon finance. Higher education authorities and librarians must have a thorough understanding of the nature and needs of a library in order to allocate sufficient funding to provide adequate library services to all. The college libraries should collect books for students, scholars and teachers under conditions that encourage reading, research, sharpening intellectual creativity and promoting personal growth. The need of the hour is to provide the necessary facilities and services for the success of formal education programmes and assisting academics in staying abreast of developments in their field. The fifth law of Library Science warns library financiers that they must keep in mind the fundamental truth that a library is a growing organism. No educational institution can meet its goals without solid libraries.

Financial resources are crucial to the efficient operation and development of college libraries, as they rely on external support to meet their needs. The main sources of funding include government grants and institutional budgets, which cover essential expenses such as staffing, acquisitions, infrastructure maintenance and are often determined by policies from bodies such as the UGC. Libraries also generate income through fees, fines and donations, with endowments providing a stable financial basis for special projects. External agencies also support libraries by funding specific initiatives such as digitization and research programmes. Effective financial management is essential to ensure efficient use of resources, prioritization of expenditure, diversification of funding sources and maintenance of transparency to meet academic requirements and future development needs.

## 2. Review of Literature

The review of literature is a crucial initial step in conducting research. Literature reviews will help the researcher to formulate research design and appropriate tools for the successful completion of the study. This involves examining the existing literature and previous research on the specific study area and identifying any gaps in the research. The knowledge that has accumulated in the past as a result of

constant endeavour is used in research (Puri, 2018). The researcher has studied many reviews, among them, some selected reviews are listed below.

Webster and Watson (2002) noted ‘reviews can provide the foundations for new research'. Review of literature enables to avoid the duplication of research work and broadens the understanding of the research problem. Literature review can help the researcher to formulate research design and appropriate tools for the successful completion of the study. Literature reviews are a critical part of scientific research (Kraus et al., 2022). A literature review is a systematic process that identifies, evaluates and incorporates the content of primary reports, identifying available literature and previous work on a specific problem area. The literature review has been arranged and categorised into three main sections under broad subject headings to make research work easier.

### 2.1. College Libraries

In recent years, college libraries have aligned themselves with the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 by providing diverse resources, promoting lifelong learning, fostering research, collaboration and digital literacy, thus supporting India's education transformation goals (Vagdal & Acharya, 2023). Evaluations of college libraries in India now consider factors such as environmental conditions to ensure a comprehensive assessment (Tak et al., 2023). Despite facing challenges in IT infrastructure, personnel and software implementation, college libraries in India are experiencing slow progress in automation and networking (Singh & Kumar, 2022). The Indian government is actively enhancing the status of college libraries by promoting academic autonomy (Rajpurkar, 2022) and acknowledging their crucial role in education and skill development (Asif & Singh, 2022).

The NEP 2020 emphasizes the importance of libraries in schools, colleges and universities, underscoring their pivotal role in the education system. Students highlight the significance of libraries in fostering a sense of belonging, community and academic support, which contributes to their success and persistence in academic endeavours (De Groote & Scoulas, 2022). According to Kumar (2022), college libraries in India serve as a repository of knowledge for scientists, technocrats, researchers and students within India's developed higher education system, providing education in various creative and

intellectual fields. Furthermore, college libraries, as non-profit institutions, strive for operational efficiency to support higher education goals, despite facing challenges like financial strains and the need for cost-effective resource management (Liu, 2022).

### 2.2. College Library Resources and Services

College libraries in India play a crucial role in supporting student learning and research by providing access to academic journals, books and electronic databases (Singh et al., 2024; Sokil & Zvorskyi, 2023). They also offer various activities, programmes and instructional services to meet users' information needs effectively (Singh, 2023). The COVID-19 pandemic accelerated the digital transformation of library services, enhancing access to information, resources and activities despite lockdown challenges (Das & Sarkar, 2022). College libraries adapted by providing online information services and e-resources, overcoming various obstacles and suggesting improvements for future preparedness (Jindal & Rai, 2022). Between 2010 and 2020, privatization became a dominant trend in Indian higher education, impacting access and funding (Gandhi & Ahir, 2022). Sharma (2022) highlights that while government funding remains crucial, it faces challenges due to declining non-government revenue sources, with privatization being a proposed solution, though the sector may not be fully prepared for it.

Kapur and Mehta (2022) discuss the significant privatization in Indian higher education, driven by the collapse of the state system and the migration of elites to private institutions, which has weakened the ideological and institutional foundations for financing higher education. Kumar (2022) addresses the challenges facing the world's third-largest higher education system, offering suggestions for overcoming these issues. Panigrahi (2022) examines how funding constraints, privatization and rising costs disproportionately affect students from disadvantaged backgrounds. Recent trends in library services emphasize digital transformation, research data management, open-access publishing, 24x7 research support and efforts to enhance research integrity and productivity (Singh & Madhusudhan, 2022), reflecting the ongoing evolution and adaptation of college libraries in the digital age.

### 2.3. University Grants Commission Support to Colleges

The UGC is the single most important statutory, advisory and executive body deliberately created to enable the centre to discharge its constitutional responsibility such as, maintenance, determination and coordination of standards of teaching, research and examination and provide funds towards this end.

The UGC plays a critical role in enhancing library services and advancing research and innovation in Indian higher education, aligning with the NEP 2020 (Vagdal & Acharya, 2023). Through essential funding and support, the UGC facilitates the automation of library systems, acquisition of e-resources and infrastructure improvements. Initiatives like the INFLIBNET Centre promote digital resources and consortium-based subscriptions (Kathuria & Kaur, 2023). Historical analysis by Jain (2023) underscores the evolution of Indian university libraries from ancient to modern times, emphasizing their significance in academic settings. The UGC's efforts include promoting library awareness and incorporating Dr S. R. Ranganathan's transformative recommendations. However, Krishnan (2023) highlights challenges such as inadequate public funding, prompting institutions to seek alternative sources. Further, Prabhakar and Kamble (2022) note the underutilization of UGC women empowerment scholarships, while Santosa et al. (2022) point out the challenges faced by digital libraries, including limited IT skills and budget constraints. Digital libraries are crucial for efficient information management and the preservation of cultural documents (Manjunatha, 2022). Wani (2022) highlights the UGC's support for digitalization through initiatives like Shodhganga, which enhances access to digital resources. Kumar et al. (2022) discuss performance-based evaluations and funding models, revealing that goal-based methodologies may outperform traditional approaches. Lastly, Nazim et al. (2021) emphasize the UGC's guidelines ensuring equal access to library facilities for all users, including individuals with disabilities.

The UGC significantly supports the development and modernization of libraries in India through various initiatives such as the Information and Library Network Centre (INFLIBNET) (Gupta et al., 2018; Chaudhari, 2018). Bhat et al. (2018) demonstrate that Grants-in-Aid positively influence state domestic products, with centralization driving growth more effectively than decentralization. Bhavanishankar (2018) argues that strengthening higher education is crucial for national development, while Bhuyan

(2016) emphasizes the impact of UGC and NAAC on library development in Assam, highlighting both progress and challenges.

The UGC's efforts include providing subsidies for books, journals and staff and promoting the adoption of standard software for library automation, which are vital for modernizing academic libraries (Kumari, 2017; Kona et al., 2016). Mandal (2016) suggests the need for a robust framework to manage digital and print resources efficiently. Sopanrao (2016) points out the UGC's role in developing college library collections and maintaining educational standards. Yadav et al. (2016) emphasize the UGC's role in upholding quality, equity and social justice in education.

Review of the existing literature reveals a significant research gap in understanding the comprehensive impact of UGC funding on the development of college libraries in India, particularly in terms of effective utilization of resources, long-term sustainability of short-term funding initiatives and regional differences in library modernization. Furthermore, there is limited empirical evidence on the relationship between UGC support and academic performance, as well as on the practical implementation of inclusivity and accessibility policies. The alignment of college libraries with the NEP 2020 and their role in achieving its goals requires empirical investigation. To optimize the effectiveness and sustainability of UGC initiatives, ensure equitable library development and ultimately improve academic outcomes across diverse regions, it is important to address these gaps through targeted research and empirical assessments.

## 3. Need and Significance of the Study

The UGC has been providing grants liberally to universities and colleges to strengthen their libraries. However, the present position of libraries, their infrastructural, facilities and services are not sufficient. The college libraries are considered supplementary adjuncts to colleges and not an integral part of them. Most of the college libraries are still housed in one room of the college building, with a limited staff of only one professional librarian and a few clerks and peons. Similarly, it is also unfortunate that many colleges in India offer graduate courses without having adequate books and other information resources in the subjects being taught in their programmes. In addition, a large number of the college libraries suffer from grossly

inadequate annual book grants, inadequate technical and non-technical staff, poor services, unsatisfactory physical facilities and above all, a lack of recognition of their important academic role. The UGC has been instrumental in providing funds, guidelines for improvement and some standards for the academic libraries, yet, it has not achieved the desired and expected results due to certain problems. Therefore, there is a need to conduct a systematic study of college libraries in Mangalore and Mysore regions.

## 4. Statement of the Problem

The proposed study has been entitled Role of University Grants Commission in the Development of College Libraries in the Mangalore and Mysore Regions: A Study.

## 5. Definition of Key Terms

The following subsections provide definitions for the key terms in the study title.

**Role:** Merriam Webster Dictionary (Merriam-Webster (2024) defines 'role' a function or part performed especially in a particular operation or process.

**University Grants Commission (UGC):** The UGC of India is a statutory body with the distinct responsibility of being the sole grant-giving agency in the country tasked with two key functions: to provide financial assistance and to oversee the coordination, determination and maintenance of standards in higher education institutions. Officially established in November 1956 through an Act of Parliament, the UGC plays a crucial role in ensuring the quality and consistency of university education across India by guiding and regulating academic standards while allocating necessary funding to institutions (UGC, 2023).

**Development:** The Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary (2024), defines 'development' as the gradual growth of something so that it becomes more advanced, stronger, etc.' An extension of the theoretical or practical aspects of a concept, design, discovery, or invention.

**College Library:** Online Dictionary for Library and Information Science (2013) defines, College Library as a type of academic library maintained by an independent

four-year college, or by one of several colleges within a larger university, for the use of students and faculty.

**Mangalore:** Mangalore is the main coastal city of the state of Karnataka. It is also known as Mangaluru, Kudla, Kodial, Maikala, etc. It lies between the Arabian Sea and the Western Ghats. The Mangalore region is a major educational and economic hub, serving Dakshina Kannada, Udupi and Kodagu districts. The region is characterized by diverse landscapes, from the coastal areas of undivided Dakshina Kannada to the coffee plantations of Kodagu, which contribute to its economic and cultural vibrancy (Wikipedia, 2024a).

**Mysore:** The Mysore region of the state of Karnataka is known for its rich cultural heritage, historical significance and educational importance. It includes the city of Mysore, a hub for tourism and education, with renowned institutions such as the University of Mysore. The Mysore region comprises three districts namely Chamarajanagar, Hassan and Mandya. The region is also notable for its scenic beauty, including the Chamundi Hills and Brindavan Gardens. In the field of higher education, the Mysore region is home to numerous colleges and universities that benefit from UGC initiatives aimed at improving infrastructure, resources and overall academic quality (Wikipedia, 2024b).

**Region:** The Collins English Dictionary (2024) define 'region' as, 'a large area of land that is different from other areas of land, for example because it is one of the different parts of a country with its own customs and characteristics, or because it has a particular geographical feature'.

**Study:** The Oxford University Press (2024) defines 'study' as 'the activity of learning or gaining knowledge, either from books or by examining things in the world'.

## 6. Objectives of the Study

The objectives of the study are:

1. To identify the recommendations of the various committees and commissions constituted by the government and the UGC for the development of college libraries

2. To know the growth and development of physical infrastructure, library manpower and information resources in the colleges under study

3. To examine the grants received from the UGC and its utilization in libraries

4. To assess the contribution of UGC for the enhancement of quality of college libraries in Mangalore and Mysore regions

5. To propose suitable practical recommendations for the improvement and development of libraries and information centres in the light of the above.

## 7. Hypotheses of the Study

The following hypotheses were formulated in the present study:

1. The college libraries situated in the urban area are the highest beneficiaries of UGC grants in comparison with those in the rural areas

2. College libraries receiving UGC grants have fully automated their services

3. There are large regional variations in the development of college libraries

## 8. Scope and Limitations of the Study

The objective of this study, with the support of the UGC, is to analyze the resources, facilities and services provided by college libraries in both aided and government colleges in Mangalore and Mysore regions of the state of Karnataka. The primary objective is to assess the role of the UGC in enhancing library services in these specific regions with a focus on colleges under UGC Section 2(f) and 12(B) of the UGC Act, 1956. Karnataka, one of the 36 states and union territories of India was selected for this research due to the excellent educational facilities and opportunities. Karnataka is located in the southwest of the country and is divided into 31 districts (Wikipedia, 2022). For efficient governance, these districts are divided into four administrative divisions: Bengaluru, Mysuru, Kitturu Karnataka (Belagavi) and Kalyana Karnataka (Gulbarga).

This study focuses on the Mysuru division which includes the Mangalore University and the University of Mysore. The Mangalore University, which separated from the University of Mysore in 1880 to become an independent institution, falls under

the jurisdiction of the Mysore Division. The study specifically identifies and examines UGC recognized colleges under Section 2(f) and 12(B) within this Division. To ensure relevance and consistency, the study only includes colleges that were founded before 2007. By focusing on these parameters, the study provides a comprehensive analysis of library services in these institutions and highlights the impact of UGC support on improving library facilities and resources.

## 9. Research Methodology

The systematic process of gathering, analysing and interpreting data to comprehend a particular topic is known as research. Researchers contribute to this understanding and spread it among their peers and the general public. The qualitative and quantitative approaches are the two main types. While quantitative studies collect numbers for statistical analysis and population generalization, qualitative studies concentrate on words and their meanings. The methodology followed for the study included a systematic literature survey. The literature survey on the proposed topic has been conducted by scanning primary journals, library literature and internet resources. The study was conducted by collecting data on this topic from secondary sources published at the national and international levels. The investigator has conducted the literature review with the survey method to collect primary data and information.

The survey was conducted by designing a questionnaire, interviews, observations and records. The questionnaire was distributed to library professionals in the colleges of Mangalore and Mysore regions. The colleges falling under UGC Section 2(f) and 12(B) of the UGC Act in these regions were included in the study. The collected data from primary sources has been analysed and interpreted systematically, keeping in view the hypotheses and objectives of the study. The aim of the study is primarily to provide a detailed analysis of the role of UGC in the development of college libraries in Mangalore and Mysore regions. The study adopts a combined methodology - theoretical and empirical - in order to examine the trends of developments compatible with the prevailing conditions of the libraries under study.

### 9.1. Population of the Study

A total of 160 governments, aided and constituent colleges were selected for the study. 152 responses were collected and the data analysed.

Table 1.1: Population of the study

| Sl. No. | Region | Questionnaire distributed | Response received | Percentage |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Mangalore | 68 | 68 | 100.00% |
| 2 | Mysore | 92 | 84 | 93.33% |
| | Total | 160 | 152 | 95.00% |

The population data of the study in Table 1.1 indicates a high response rate to the distributed questionnaires in both Mangalore and Mysore regions. In Mangalore, all 68 distributed questionnaires were returned, resulting in a 100% response rate. In Mysore, 84 out of 92 questionnaires distributed were returned, giving a response rate of 93.33%. In total, of the 160 questionnaires distributed, 152 were returned, representing an impressive overall response rate of 95.00%. This high response rate indicates a strong commitment from participants in both regions and ensures the reliability and representativeness of the study results.

### 9.2. Questionnaire

The questionnaire method adapted for data collection is based on closed ended questionnaire with 5-point Likert Scale with ranking scale.

The main questionnaire consists 5 sections:

Section A: General information of the colleges

Section B: Human resources and training

Section C: Library standards, resources and facilities

Section D: Physical facilities and infrastructure

Section E: The role of UGC in the development of college libraries

## 10. Analysis of Data

The researcher collects data and then analyses it through categories, coding, tabulation and drawing statistical inferences. This involves establishing categories, applying these categories to raw data and presenting the results. In the analysis part, appropriate statistical techniques are employed to the data collected and tabulated. Testing of the hypotheses is carried out with suitable statistical tools. The MS excel data analysis and SPSS software package is used for data processing. The data is analysed by using statistical tools like Percentage, Average, Range, Standard

Deviation, Two-way tables, Mann-Whitney test and Chi-Square test. The outcome of the research findings is reported by using APA Style Manual.

## 11. Major Findings and Observations

- It is found that 99 (65.13%) colleges are in the urban area and 53 (34.87%) are in the rural areas
- It is observed that 112 (73.69%) respondents are under the section 2(f) and 12(B) of the UGC Act 1956 and 40 (26.31%) colleges have only the 2(f) status
- Most of the 106 (69.73%) colleges were established prior to 2000
- It is observed that 106 (69.74%) colleges have been granted short-term development programmes
- It is found that only 4 (02.63%) respondents received UGC grants to conduct conferences/workshops
- It is observed that only 3 (02.63%) respondents received minor research projects from the UGC
- It is found that just 3 (01.97%) respondents received FIP for doctoral studies
- The book bank scheme (UGC and SC/ST) was implemented in all colleges
- The book bank and other books were purchased in the college libraries to meet the demands of the users
- It is observed that nearly 87 (57.24%) respondents fully automated their college libraries
- It is found that a majority of 114 (75.00%) respondents are practicing the partial open access system in the libraries
- Out of 152 college libraries, 69 (45.50%) have less than 200 square metres of area
- The reading room area was not fulfilled as per the UGC/college manual norms and standards by a majority of the college libraries
- It is observed that 15 (9.87%) colleges have below 100 square metres area for library
- It is found that 87 (57.24%) respondents felt that the seating capacity of the library is inadequate
- Out of 152 respondents 81 (53.29%) use open source software and 57 (37.50%) respondents use commercial library software for library automation

- It is found that 116 (76.32%) respondents opined that the college fund was used for library automation
- It is observed that 22 (14.47%) respondents received UGC grants for library automation software
- It is found that out of 152 colleges, only 27 (17.76%) are not accredited by the NAAC
- It is found that the budget was below 1 lakh in a majority of 120 (78.94%) college libraries
- It is found that 89 (58.55%) college libraries have membership with N-LIST to access the e-resources database
- It is observed that most of the college libraries are not providing the e-resource access lab in the libraries
- It is found that 101 (66.45%) colleges have up to 5 computers with internet facilities
- It is observed that in 73 (48.03%) colleges there is a library seating capacity of below 100 users at a time
- A majority of 149 (98.03%) of the respondents felt that the UGC has to increase grants for libraries
- A majority of 136 (89.47%) respondents agreed that the NAAC accreditation process gives more importance to library and information centres
- It is found that 51 (33.55%) respondents felt that the UGC role is very important in the development of college libraries

## 12. Organisation of the Thesis

The study has been organized systematically into five chapters as follows:

**Chapter I – Introduction.** Being introductory, this chapter introduces the research theme and explains its need and significance. It states the research problem and defines the important concepts relating to the present research and lists the objectives and hypotheses of the study. Further, it discusses the methodology adopted for the data collection, analyses, scope and limitations of the study. A brief overview of the remaining chapters is also provided here.

**Chapter II – Review of Literature.** This chapter attempts to present the review of literature about the existing studies pertaining to the development of libraries and financial support for higher education, particularly with the support of the UGC in India. This study takes into account both library resources and services. The literature review is done under various sub-sections to cover the different aspects of higher education, college libraries and other related issues.

**Chapter III –**This chapter contains two sections. Section A: **University Grants Commission** and Section B: **Profile of the College libraries**. Section A provides an overview of UGC committees and commissions for libraries, while Section B discusses resources, facilities and services in college libraries in Mangalore and Mysore regions.

**Chapter IV –Data Analysis.** This chapter forms the core of the research. Here an attempt is made to present the analysed data related to the role of the UGC in the development of college libraries. The data collected is structured, analysed and interpreted in the light of the objectives of the study.

**Chapter V – Findings, Suggestions and Conclusions.** The results of the study are drawn and recommendations made on the basis of data analyses. The chapter ends with a conclusion, highlighting the major areas for further research.

## 13. Conclusion

The Indian higher education system has experienced significant changes due to globalization and the use of information and communication technology. Libraries play a crucial role in education, serving as essential sources of information. However, the effectiveness of libraries is directly linked to the availability of sufficient resources. Financial constraints often result in inadequate library systems. Libraries rely on financial grants from governments as they do not generate revenue or profit. In the case of colleges, relying solely on grants from the UGC is insufficient and they must seek additional funding through library fees and donations. These funds are necessary to ensure adequate academic facilities for students and faculties.

The UGC plays a vital role in the development of college libraries in India. The UGC's involvement includes funding, standardization, access to digital resources, training and policy formulation. This comprehensive approach greatly improves the quality and accessibility of library services in colleges throughout the country. By providing the necessary infrastructure, resources and expertise, the UGC significantly contributes to the advancement of education and the dissemination of knowledge. Moreover, their support helps create vibrant academic environments that empower students and faculty while promoting research and innovation. Ultimately, the UGC's role in developing college libraries is crucial to their broader mission of enhancing education and research in India.

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## Publications

**Journal Articles:**

1. **Higher education and academic libraries in India: a rapidly changing scenario**
**Udaya & Dr Khaisar M. Khan**
*Journal of Emerging Technologies and Innovative Research (JETIR)*
ISSN: 2349-5162 Vol. 6 Issue: 5 2019
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2. **University Grants Commission in the development of the library consortia in India: a special reference to E-Shodhsindhu**
**Udaya & Dr Khaisar M. Khan**
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3. **Role and importance of University Grants Commission in financing higher education with special focus on the south-western region of India**
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**Conference proceedings:**

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Udaya & Dr Khaisar M. Khan

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**Higher education and library consortium in India: an overview**
Udaya & Dr Khaisar M. Khan

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**Conference paper:**

**Financing higher education and libraries and information centres: a few observations**
Udaya & Dr Khaisar M. Khan

International Conference on 'Building Knowledge Centres' on 1st & 2nd January, 2015 held at NMAM Institute of Technology, Nitte, Karkala.